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Adam Masonbrink

Sandra Clausing

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Profile

Narrator Name: Sandra Clausing

Interviewer: Adam Masonbrink

Author: Adam Masonbrink

Date of Interview: 02/15/11

Subject: Oral History Interview with a Sandra Clausing. She discusses her life and her service in community involvement.

Key Words:

Gibbons Hospital

Richard Western

Ohio State Beauty Academy

Family

Lois Beauty Shop

Lee Clausing

Merle Norman

Beauty School

Muscular dystrophy

March of dimes

Valley Nursing Home

Customers

Retirement

Memories thru pictures: An Oral History Interview with Sandra Clausing, HST 485: Introduction to Oral History, Dr. Marjorie McLellan, Winter Quarter 2011

On February 15, 2011, I interviewed Sandra Clausing, my grandmother, at her home. We conducted the interview in her basement living room. Sandra Clausing was born October 4, 1938, which is 72 years ago, in Gibbons hospital in Celina. She has a younger sister Rebecca (Becky). Her father and mother were busy workers and owned their own businesses. Her father owned a Kitty Shop as well as worked at the wool mill. Her mother, one of her biggest influence, worked at the beauty shop. Sandra was involved in the beauty shop at an early age, which pushed her to wanting to become a beautician. Sandra completed beauty school in Dayton at Richard Western. She had the option to work in Dayton or go work with her mother, which she felt was the best choice. She started working six days a week. Worked for two full years of six days a week to get my business builds up. After working at the beauty shop for some years she found her future husband, Lee Clausing, when she was nineteen. They dated for two years and then we got married. And a in the mean time my sister comes a long and graduates from high school and then here along comes she wants to go to beauty school. So she gets to go to Lima, because Ohio State Beauty Academy was not there back in when I went in fifty-seven. Once her sister, Becky, graduated from high school she too wanted to pursue a career as a beautician and work with her mother and sister. Sandra didn't have to go to school

as long as her sister did. She was able to have the experience of practicing her skills at an orphanage. I could tell during the interview this was a wonderful experience that she will always remember.

The family business just didn't work in the shop; they would have shed ins as well as go to nursing homes to take care of their customers. Throughout the 51 years of being a beautician, Sandra has had some events that were frustrating as well as priceless being a beautician, but either way they were great learning experiences and adding people to her life.

Family is the most important aspect in Sandra's life. Having everyone close to one another is priceless. She enjoys watching and participating with her grandchildren's activities. One of her hobbies is to take pictures and make albums. She is one to always have her camera with her at any family event. She is a woman who has had a great influence on me as well as others. You could say there isn't a mean bone inside her.

It was an honor to interview my grandmother who is self giving, humble, and caring. It was great hearing the stories as well as seeing the pictures of her childhood and experiences she went through in life. She dedicated her life and time to her customers as well as her family that keeps on growing. She has taught me many values in life as well as help shaped me into a great person.

Oral History Interview

Name of the Project: Memories thru pictures: An Oral History Interview with Sandra Clausing

Name of the project director: Marjorie McLellan, Department of Urban Affairs and Geography, Wright State University

Archives or repository

Interviewee/narrator name Sandra Clausing

Interviewer name Adam Masonbrink

Others present

Place 865 Hillcrest Dr., Sandra Clausing's house (Basement Family Room)

Date 02/15/11

Length of recording: 1:04:43

Original format: m4a

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Merle Norman

Beauty School

Muscular dystrophy

March of dimes

Valley Nursing Home

Customers

Retirement

Indexed by: Adam Masonbrink

0:00:00-0:00:29 introduction to the recording

Information listed above.

0:00:29-0:09:39

Sandra describes her childhood experience. She had her first experience in the beauty shop and meets the customers. She felt at home there. She had a baby sister in which she rather go to her friends birthday party rather than go to the hospital to pick her up. she talked about the lifestyle of not having a TV and participating in games outside as well as going to the twenty cent shows down town. Her schooling didn't start too early in the day and she always walked to and from school as well as for lunch or had to pack her lunch. She graduates in 1956. Three of her friends went to a career day to Richard Westerns in Dayton for beauty school. They were able to share each others skills and school experiences with each other throughout the years. It took seven months through beauty school and then one year for state board. She had the option to work in Dayton but preferred to work with her mother in her shop. She stressed that you had to get your

business build up. She met her husband and dated for two years and got married. Her sister later graduates and wants to become a beautician as well. They introduced Merle Norman to their beauty shop and how great of a product it was. Sandra had 51 years in the beauty shop. Her sister is involved in the beauty shop and wants to continue for some years to come rather than retire right away. There is no body down the line in the family to continue the business, which is sad to say.

Keywords:

Beauty School

Muscular dystrophy

March of dimes

Valley Nursing Home

Customers

0:09:39-0:14:17

She was one to help the Muscular dystrophy back in 1995 and willing to donate to the cause, but not one to beg for money on the telephone. Her husband later developed muscular dystrophy in 1998. She was involved with March of dimes as well as heart and cancer societies. Her father had a kitty shop as well as working at the wool shop and how they made materials for many of people as well services. She reflects on her father's business and how well he enjoyed it, but later joined the beauty shop. She displays her childhood pictures and talks about the new additions to the beauty shop as well as the open house. Sandra had a lovely wedding anniversary two years ago. If you have five minutes don't waste it... It was stuck in her mind from what your mother use to tell them. And that you can't buy time and you can't replace it.

Keywords:

Lois Engel

Customers

Adam Masonbrink

Madison Ginter

0:14:17-0:19:19

Sandra said her mom would have to be my biggest influence being she was in there ever since she was two, you know that's about all she knew. One time she thought she might like to be an airline stewardess, but no more liked to fly anymore or pack a bag. She felt she would make a poor airline stewardess. Between Becky and her they really didn't take the opportunity to go out and do anything else other than baby-sit in high school that sort of thing. But she doesn't know it's just um the way she treated people and worked for the public. Well she never in all her life charged her more than fifty cent for a hair cut. And then when mom would go to the conventions and then I was in charge to do her hair and she didn't feel very comfortable just with everybody doing her hair you know because of her condition. So Sandra charged her fifty cents just like mom did and she thinks today she is still living at our Valley Nursing Home with her mother. Her mother took her home to Coldwater for awhile with her but she got the place where she couldn't handle her so they both went to the

nursing home. But those are things she remembered how mom didn't care rich or poor she treated them all alike, whatever they could afford to pay. She was there to serve them and that's what she did for well like I said 78 years. She worked up to about eight weeks before she got sick and was cutting hair past 99. She cut your hair as a baby. She got you out of a pinch once Adam do you remember that came up to the shop? Cut your own bangs and your mom pulled you into the shop and grandma said she would have to see what she can do. And Sandra had the same experience with Madison. She got a hold of the scissors one time and cut her bangs so short up there. Sandra thought oh my lord what am I going to do now. (Both laughing) So had enough hair in the back we brought it forward and fit it in and it passed the bill she thought? But ah those are nice experience things you cant go back and re-live but ah mom taught me a lot of good things and a tell yeah what I did go do some shed-ins for years and years when they couldn't come in the shop anymore. And then mom took me to the funeral home one time and ooh my lord there were two corpses laying there and mom said you go ahead and do one and I'll do the other. Well Adam, I didn't know who's hands was the coldest because I never touched a corpse's hands in my life for the simple reason I wasn't afraid to but our hands were damp from setting the hair that you didn't want to mess up the make-up.

You know as they were being shown. So when I did my mother-in-laws hair, I didn't touch her. I treated her just the same with everyone else with love and respect and I didn't touch her or anything.

But when mom and dad died I had to kiss them on the forehead to say goodbye to them because they were family you know.

My mother in law was family too, but I just ah was somewhat younger then and she died in '77 so I was somewhat younger, but its not that I had less thoughts for her I just didn't do that. So, I still go out and do shed-ins occasionally I did one two weeks ago she was 89 for a hair-cut. I've got one who is 88 that I do. And I went up today and did your great aunt' hair, Ruth's hair my fingers don't work as fast as they use to at 72.

Keywords:

Frustration

Arthritis

Miller's funeral home

Advertising

0:19:19-0:28:13

Sandra talks about some of the frustrations as well as the people and events she appreciated while being a beautician. She had to have her hand done twice due to carpal tunnel. She also had her feet worked on, and those are the hazards when you have a standing up job. She talks about her mother, Lois Engel who kept her fingers going all those year and never had any complaints. You never heard grandma complain about too much of anything. She didn't have arthritis, and that's another problem Sandra had with arthritis. She tried to make the most of that she can so just have to forget about it and goes on don't us. Her customers would say this to her

which made her feel good. well you know nobody does my hair like you use to do my hair I wish I had you back but they understand you enjoy your retirement now you earned it. You know but its kind a nice feeling to know you were really appreciated because you sometimes wonder they leave you and come back sometimes. Sandra had some customers that would leave for some reason say they relocated, but then later come back and still want her to do their hair. She also talks about the reflection of doing her mother and father's hair the day of their funerals. One moment that stays in her mind and thankful of Miller's Funeral Home, was when they drove past the beauty shop for Lois, and the meaningful message that event meant towards the family. Sandra as well as the others at the beauty shop didn't advertise their work instead they focused on word of mouth being the best advertising for their business as well as a good product.

Keywords:

Council of Aging

Nursing homes

For the right reasons

0:28:13-38:11

Sandra talks about the number of people she has done throughout the years as well as the locations where they have helped ladies with their hair. Many of these places were at nursing homes or even sometimes in the person's home. She also talks about how they didn't take any higher profit for doing leaving the shop to do their job, rather they charged the same and felt the most important thing was doing it for their customers and the customers family. They later quit some of the contracts they had with the nursing home because the nursing home wanted more of a profit and not for the right reasons. Sandra also talks about what type of personality one should have in the business and how some of the people they had working for them carried one that wasn't settled in their own eyes or great for the business, but you come across them. She talks about how others have really helped them out in order for them to carryout their job as in like the Council of Aging bringing their customers too them who had a struggle of getting there.

Keywords:

Schooling

State boards

Customers coming back

Training

38:11- -50:00

Sandra talks about her schooling as well as the close relationship she had with the girls she went to school with. She talks about the methods and classes she participated in as well as finishing early and being sent to an orphanage to demonstrate there. Sandra also talks about one of her customers where she felt upset and somewhat mad based on the customer not being satisfied on her work. She reflects on the memory and involves emotions from both her and the customer. She

also talks how her schooling was different than that of her sisters and the use of real people to practice on and the use of manikins.

Keywords:

Retirement

Grandchildren

Photos

50:00-55:00

Sandra talks about retirement and the beauty of having family so close because family is everything. She goes into more about her grandchildren and wanting to share every moment and memory with them as they achieve what they want in life. She talks about how she has picture albums to go back and relive the memories already made. Sandra enjoys taking pictures as a hobby and it shows because you catch so many stories in a picture.

Keywords:

Y teens

Rainbow girls

Generations

Heritage

55:00-1:04:

Final closing to the interview as Sandra talks about some of the clubs she was in such as being in Y teens as well as rainbow girls. She feels the clubs like these have better shaped her career and being a great person. The people she surrounds herself as well as the traits and traditions passed down from generation to generation made who we all are today and better role models.

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Date 02/15/11

Length of recording: 1:04:43

Original format: m4a

Transcribed by

Adam Masonbrink

Interview transcript

Masonbrink: Hello, I'm Adam Masonbrink and I'm here sitting with my lovely grandmother Sandra Clausing and she's going to share with me today her childhood, experience growing up, influence to have her become a beautician for 51 years in her community. But, before we get started on questions, I like to take the time grandma and thank you

Clausing: Thanks for having me

Masonbrink: coming and allowing me to have this interview with you today. So um first take, let um tell me about your childhood, family experiences, and while growing up.

Clausing: well, I was born October 4, 1938, which is 72 years ago in Gibbons hospital in Celina. And I was born to two lovely hard working parents. And when I was two, they moved up on the corner of front and high street where they built a house with an empty lot because they needed more space and mom had been downtown two different locations so they decided to take advantage of getting this nice home and then build the house do the house over and do the shop the way they wanted to. So when I was two, mom had me at home with babysitters and what's have yeah. And pretty soon I got the place where I wanted to be in the shop where all the activity was going on. So she moved me in there with my rocking chair. And the customers would say I would sit there in that rocking chair and visit then pretty soon I would rock real fast and rock myself to sleep because I felt at home that's where I wanted to be beside being next door with the babysitter. So, that's what we did. And so, I got to liking older people that way by being around them all my life that when I got old enough to work in there I always enjoyed working on older people, because I felt like I can fill their needs better. They appreciated what I can do

for them. Better than these youngsters that didn't know what I thought I was doing probably. So that was when I was two. Then along comes Becky when I am almost nine. And so I go out to my aunt's farm house and stay while mom is at Gibbon's hospital. And my dad comes along and says well would you like to come along with me to pick up your mom and your baby sister? And I said no I said I've got a nice birthday party to go to down the road to and I much rather do that, because I can always be with my sweet baby sister all the years later to come. So grandpa my dad let me do that, and so I thought that's a good thing later on in life because I thought gee they only had a one seater car, where would I have sat in the first place?

Masonbrink: uh ummmm

Clausing: with grandma holding the baby, my mom holding the baby. I'd be in the way. But I loved her dearly. We got along fine all those years. So getting back, we use to roller skate. Dad would take us to Celina to the skate rank on Saturdays. We would skate together. But before that, we didn't have a TV set till I became in the eighth grade in fifty-two. So in the mean time we played hop scotch outside, played with jack stones, went to dances, listen to the radio more than anything because there was no TV. Went to the twenty cent Saturday afternoon matinee movies and they had such big crowds they would stand clear down to the St. Marys Theater clear down to Kellemeyer store. It was a twenty min... twenty cent... twenty cent matinee. So when we got a TV, it was rather interesting, because there wasn't too many people in town that could afford to buy a TV. But mom and dad said we work hard as a family, we don't do much else besides working, but we're going to have a TV. So that happened in 1952. In of course I watched TV before I'd go to school in the morning. Back then, school didn't start till eight nine o'clock. So I didn't have to leave the house till eight-thirty. And from the time I was in first grade till I got into high school you walked home for lunch everyday or packed your pail because there was no cafeteria till I got up in high school, because when I was in the seventh and eighth grade McBroom was just... haven't been built yet.

Masonbrink: um hummm

I think it got built in fifty-two I was finishing up my eighth grade and I couldn't get in there until my senior year. I went there one period a day for art class and that's all I got out of McBroom School. So then I go ahead and graduate in 1956. Well, there were four other girls, three from Sidney, and my one classmate I graduated with from St. Marys School. Well they had like a career day, so we decided to jump into the car we got the day off from school for this. And we went to Richard Westerns in Dayton to look over the beauty school. Well we kind of liked that. So we all got an apartment on Wayne Ave. and all five of us lived together. Only the one girl she had already gone through school and she was a manicurist I think at Elder Beerman or something. So she worked as a regular person while we were at school then when she had some time off she wash all of our uniforms up and hang them down in the basement of this old couple's house. Now they lived in the downstairs apartment. The UD girls lived in the basement and we lived up on the top floor. And we had

five rooms between the three of us. And we had to double up in the bedroom, but that was alright. So this Barbra would do our laundry for us, while we were at work, so that was pretty neat. So, I took seven months to get through beauty school. I started in September and got out in April. Had to wait a whole month for state board and then I went to state board in May and started working in June at my mom's beauty shop. Well, I could have stayed in Dayton if I have wanted to, but I thought no this is my home and this where I knew all the people and I think mom was kind of counting on me a little bit anyhow coming into the business

Masonbrink: Right.

Clausing: So, that's what I did. I started up working six days a week. Worked for two full years of six days a week to get my business build up because I knew I couldn't be loafing and getting customers. So I had to sit around for sometimes for days and days and not taken a dime like they say you know you have to get your business build up. So then after doing that, I meet my future husband when I was nineteen, and he would come see me at the shop, and I'd have to be working till nine o'clock and so he had to go home about ten or after because I had to be back to work at seven the next morning. And so we dated for two years and then we got married. And a in the mean time my sister comes a long and graduates from high school and then here along comes she wants to go to beauty school. So she gets to go to Lima, because Ohio State Beauty Academy was not there back in when I went in fifty-seven. So she attended there in sixty-six. And she got through beauty school fine, state board fine, and she decided to join us. Well, at one time we had ten different operators working at our shop and so that was before Becky joined us, because she was younger. But we had ten at the time; now were about five or six now. But at the time that was considered a pretty good size shop. And then a she told mom she wanted to get some Merle Norman and she just had to have some money for some Merle Norman as we were selling Revalan. And she begged and begged mom for that so mom gave her the money and looked she looked into it. Well she found out how much good results it did to Becky's complexion she thought maybe she should get into this so mom went to Mt. Vernon then and went to school for classes and it will be um sixty um lets see sixty-six what would that be forty-four years I guess we had Merle Norman in the beauty shop now.

Masonbrink: Sounds about right

Clausing: And Becky is going to attend the eightieth convention of Merle Norman this coming April in California. And a she keeps it going even though I retired after fifty-one years. I still go up and help her out occasionally and a she tries to keep everything a moving but she says that a she has to keep it going for a while because she likes selling Merle Norman, likes her sweet customers, and um don't want to disappoint them.

Masonbrink: umm hmm got to keep them happy

Clausing: so she thinks she has to go for a few more years so we'll have to see what happens. There's no body down the line to take over the business, because Melissa turned out to be a school teacher. Your mom liked the hospital.

Masonbrink: umm hmm Jennifer is at the hospital.

Clausing: Jennifer is at the hospital. So there is no body to carry it on so this is the end of the line which is sad to say. But that's the way it gets to be after so many years. But we met an awful lot of nice people through the years and they all treated us well. And I ah had a wonderful, wonderful childhood. Like I said we had many friends we were growing up. And now I guess to get on to things I'll tell about umm is it time to tell them about my things I did for the community maybe how I did

Masonbrink: yeah we can enter some areas in the community.

Clausing: like this one picture here when they called me and I said I wouldn't be willing to ill come down and help yeah but I'm not a telephone person to beg for money, but I will come down and spend some time with muscular dystrophy. But I do have money to give you through my sweet customers that were willing to donate to the cause.

Masonbrink: um hmm

Clausing: So what I did I spent a few hours down there donated to the cause, but I wasn't a person to beg for money over the telephone, but a felt I did my fair share for doing that. And that was back in 1998. Well as you know your grandpa got muscular dystrophy in 1992.

Masonbrink: Right

Clausing: so I thought that would be a nice thing to help with that. In the past I helped in the neighborhood with heart, cancer, and of course the march of dimes. So I did that for a number of years. Now umm I'm going to show you a picture of my aunt I told you that my dad had a kitty shop, for five years and then he went back to the wool mill and worked for fourteen more years because in fifty-nine they closed up the St. Marys wool mill which they made blanket for all over the world, for the army, for the navy, and my dad also said they did for Hollywood stars, movie stars. They had special brands like they made for Machida Wards, they put like their labels on it and then later on Field Crest brought them out. And then they closed up the building and then cotton mills came in there for a number of years and then of course everyone knows they tore the building down. In what year was that? A couple of years ago weren't it.

Masonbrink: yeah four or five years ago they tore it down.

Clausing: but anyhow this is my dad's sister and he... she helped in the store with him with another lady clerk that I didn't... do remember. But my sister was quite small when my dad did that and I kind of out grew the clothes after a year or two so something like that while he was in business I out grew the clothes, but um they had a very nice fine line of clothes and he enjoyed being a business man and so after he got done doing that he came into the shop ordered all our Merle Norman, Merle Norman products, became our nice a janitor you might say nicely.

Masonbrink: (laugh)

Clausing: He would do the towels and do the moping and keep things rolling and that way mom had all she had to be doing her customers. And everything else for her was pretty much taken care of for her. So, anyhow there's a few of my chun... childhood pictures and through the years how I use to sit up there and you can see I was sitting on a chair behaving myself wasn't I Adam?

Masonbrink: Oh yeah,

Clausing: I was a good kid in there. (Laugh)

Masonbrink: A lot of big difference...

Clausing: lot of big difference

Masonbrink: Structure wise in there at the shop.

Clausing: Well like I said in fifty-nine they added onto the addition form the size it was and they took all the beauticians did everything gutted the whole thing. And as you can see there are other pictures over here when we had out open house. We had our open house when we remodeled it before we added on the new addition. Like all these other pictures over here when we had our re-grand opening you might call it. And umm these are more recent pictures of us up here. And this of course is my father, that had the wool mill working there and the kitty shop. Is there anything else Adam you'd think you'd like to know? Well our wedding pictures of course that we've been celebrating fifty-two years of married life this coming June 28th we had a lovely 50th... didn't we Adam? Wedding anniversary

Masonbrink: Oh yeah...

Clausing: two years ago.

Masonbrink and Clausing: (Laugh)

Clausing: Think everybody had a nice time there. And so there's pictures up there in the front like I said earlier, mom had two different locations up town and ah those are pictures that Becky gave me just two years ago that she found for my 50th and I'll

always treasure those. And like she said before if you have five minutes don't waste it. Get something done, don't waste those five minutes. So that's always stuck to my mind real good. Like I can hear her saying it yet today if you've got five minutes you better do something worth wild. (Laugh) That's what the kids need to do today, don't them Adam.

Masonbrink: yeah

Clausing: don't waste any time in school.

Masonbrink: Time is precious.

Clausing: You can't buy time. Once its here it's gone tomorrow. You just can replace the time you lost today. So I can't think of anything else unless you've got some ideas for me

Masonbrink: umm well

Clausing: let's see what you got there?

Masonbrink: Just looking umm back like who influenced you in how throughout your progress through

Clausing: to going to beauty school.

Masonrbink: beauty school.

Clausing: Well, I guess my mom would have to be my biggest influence being I was in there ever since I was two, you know that's about all I knew.

Masonbrink: uh umm

Clausing: one time I thought I might like to be an airline stewardess, but no more I like to fly anymore or pack a bag.

Masonbrink: uh umm

Clausing: I'd sure make a poor airline stewardess.

Masonbrink and Clausing: (laugh)

Clausing: so really between Becky and I we really didn't take the opportunity to go out and do anything else other than baby-sit in high school that sort of thing. But I mean did some of that too. But I don't know it's just um the way she treated people and worked for the public. How somebody could be down and out and she would just charge them fifty cent for a hair cut remember JoAnn?

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: That rode the bicycle around time and shook all the time. Well she never in all her life charged her more than fifty cent for a hair cut. And then when mom would go to the conventions and then I was in charge to do her hair and she didn't feel very comfortable just with everybody doing her hair you know because of her condition

Masonbrink: Right

Clausing: so I charged her fifty cents just like mom did and I think today she is still living at our Valley Nursing Home with her mother. Her mother took her home to Coldwater for awhile with her but she got the place where she couldn't handle her so they both went to the nursing home. But those are things I remembered how mom didn't care rich or poor she treated them all alike, whatever they could afford to pay. She was there to serve them and that's what she did for well like I said 78 years. She worked up to about eight weeks before she got sick and was cutting hair past 99. She cut your hair as a baby. She got you out of a pinch once Adam do you remember that came up to the shop?

Masonbrink: yeah, I cut my own bangs

Clausing: Cut your own bangs and your mom pulled you into the shop and grandma said she would have to see what she can do. And I had the same experience with Madison. She got a hold of the scissors one time and cut her bangs so short up there. I thought oh my lord what am I going to do now. (Both laughing) So had enough hair in the back

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Masonbrink: um hmmm

Clausing: You know as they were being shown. So when I did my mother-in-laws hair, I didn't touch her. I treated her just the same with everyone else with love and respect and I didn't touch her or anything.

Masonbrink: umm hmmm

Clausing: But when mom and dad died I had to kiss them on the forehead to say goodbye to them because they were family you know.

Masonbrink: Right

Clausing: My mother in law was family too, but I just ah was somewhat younger then and she died in '77 so I was somewhat younger, but its not that I had less thoughts for her I just didn't do that. So, I still go out and do shed-ins occasionally I did one two weeks ago she was 89 for a hair-cut. I've got one who is 88 that I do. And I went up today and did your great aunt' hair, Ruth's hair

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: for a set. Because we are closed on Mondays. And I have like two my girlfriend and my son-in-laws mother I go up and do. Because if I don't do it that way they will have me back on the book again Adam.

Masonbrink: umm hmm yeah (laugh)

Clausing: Ill is out of retirement. So now Becky is pulling me out for semi-retirement again this coming April I'll be working at the shop eight days for her while she goes out to California for this convention. And I'm going to be up there tomorrow all day for her so she can take care of her husband's doctors needs. So, she doesn't want me to get too dry behind the ears I guess

Masonbrink: yep

Clausing: would you say? She wants to keep in circulation. So, I was surprised today, I hadn't ah done a set since I drew Ruth's set in ah November... no December ill take that back... in December before Christmas I did her hair because she does her own hair a lot of times. But I guess I didn't lose that touch its just like they say you learn to ride a bicycle you never know how to

Masonbrink: yeah, you know

Clausing: forget how to ride a bicycle. So, Becky keeps me in the saddle of things. So, we'll see where it all leads. But I'm glad to help her out when I have to. But you never know how fast those fingers can run and the reason I retired for one thing was the clock was running faster than I could run.

Masonbrink: umm hmmm

Clausing: my fingers don't work as fast as they use to at 72.

Masonbrink: So would you say those are some obstacles, or frustrations or challenges you had to face as working being a beautician?

Clausing: in a way I guess, because I had to have my hand done twice over twice you know of carpal tunnel. I mean I had my feet worked on, and those are just part of the things of the occupational therapy they says that's part of the hazards when you have a standing up job. But mom kept her fingers going all those year and never had any complaints. You never heard grandma complain about too much of anything.

Masonbrink: oh no.

Clausing: She didn't have arthritis, and that's another problem I have with arthritis I try to make the most of that I can so just have to forget about it and goes on don't us.

Masonbrink: Do you see many satisfying contributions from your customers and the satisfaction of being in the shop?

Clausing: well it's always nice to have them say well you know nobody does my hair like you use to do my hair I wish I had you back but they understand you enjoy your retirement now you earned it. You know but its kind a nice feeling to know your were really appreciated because you sometimes wonder they leave you and come back sometimes.

Masonbrink: ummm hmmm

Clausing: They got tired of you maybe for some reason or moved away I've had it were they moved away relocated and relocated back and come back to me that was nice. I had Miller Johnson like that they were with Goodyear and she had to leave for her husbands work at Goodyear and then she come back and I did her till the day she died. I went out to the St. Marys...Um... Living Center out on Indiana Ave. and did her hair when she couldn't come into the shop on the bus.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: She drove the car as long as she could; when she couldn't drive she came on the bus. And she got to the place were she was so bad, I went out to the nursing home and did her and ah she was always so thankful I was there for her. That was a big.... That's... a lot of appreciation right there, I mean I enjoy that. But doing corpses that never bothered me because mom broke me in with those two being there. I guess that was the best thing that could have happened because I didn't have any chance of getting out of it, you know she just says you get in there and do one and I'll do the other in case I'm out of town or something and you get called upon you'll know just what to do. So when mom pasted away, I was so grateful that Millers took mom and had her on the table where we do the hair at in the showroom out of in the embalming room. And that was easier to do Becky and I went together to say our farewells to mom. Because we were in the business all those years side by

side which was quite my pleasure. I don't think I would have been happy in Dayton. It would cost more to live there, and I wouldn't have the closeness of the customer, and they probably be pickier anyhow. (Both laugh) But I mean working side by side with mom I would have lost all those good years together after working 51 years side by side with mom

Masonbrink: and its great being with the family and influence

Clausing: mom and I had more time to share together. Like five days a week there was hardly a weekend we didn't spend together. You know we were always working Saturdays and a lot of Sunday things went on. So we spent a lot of time together. So anyhow, getting back to mom we both did her hair together and it made it so much easier not when we go back now which I have done a number of times since almost three years since she passed away doing corpse in the room I don't visualize her being on the table as much as I would of if I'd actually had her in the room with me

Masonbrink: right

Clausing: you see what I mean? But I mean I know dad was in the embalming room because I didn't have anything to do with his hair. But I mean it was just easier I just couldn't thank them so much for doing that and another thing Millers did nice that I'll never forget is the day of grandma's funeral. They drove her around past the beauty shop one last time. I thought that was the sweetest thing they drove her around even though we knew she couldn't see it. It was like a dedication to her for all her hard 78 years that she worked. Now she spent seven of those 78 years I think I told you earlier in Spencerville getting her first start, but all the rest of them from 1937 to the day she died spend right here in good St. Marys and her mother-in-law being a church person like she was and a card player she gave her mother in law my grandmother a lot of credit for getting her business build up downtown St. Marys, because she would tell her friends and her friends would tell their friends to come to Lois's to get their hair done.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: so word of mouth I would always say is your best advertising.

Masonbrink: oh yeah

Clausing: and a good product. Having a smile on your face everyday, not going in there and say oh what can I do for your mop today? (Both laugh) we use to have one operator and she say that and we just had a fit about that She'd come into work. Then this other operator says oh I'm so glad to see yeah you're my last customer for the day. Now you know that can make some people mad because they think well she isn't going to do a good job.

Masonbrink: You just want me to get in and get out.

Clausing: isn't going to do a good job on my hair because she just wants to go home. And we didn't like that too well either, but that was just her way of talking to people and you know what you can do you can say some things to some people it doesn't bother them but you say that to some other people and you can really hurt their feelings and they may not come back again to see you because they thought you had a rough day or something or don't.. sometimes they like to be first in line as to be last in line to get their hair done, because know your fresher in the morning, but some cases we had an operator come to work once she hardly had her hair combed half way decent just like she came to work right out of bed.

Masonbrink: yeah

Clausing: and that's not good policy either. (Both laugh)

Masonbrink: Back to when you said you know the beauticians and them coming and saying oh you're my last one or whatever

Clausing: yeah

Masonbrink: but it really shows that going to work you know

Clausing: suppose to be pride

Masonbrink: isn't your just going there just to make money, your going there to build that relationship with your customers

Clausing: and I mean to tell you I mean like I said from little on I enjoyed the older people that some of them are like a second mom or a second grandma to me. And when Brodbeck's had their grocery store down there across the street from the council of aging now its not there its an empty lot on the corner use to be a house and that was the grocery store before they ever got across the street and mom would do her hair the owners hair and how much she thought of me this was during the depression when our rations were out.. Sugar rations were out and different things and you couldn't buy any bubble gum to speak of hardly. And she came one day to work and brought me a long stick of bubble gum. Can you remember that Adam?

Masonbrink: the long sticks (shaking head yes)

Clausing: The long bubble gum and I thought I was in seventh heaven. I mean to think she thought enough of me to bring that bubble gum. And that's how we got our friendship going it through when mom retired in 77 she turned the shop over to Becky and I and it only lasted a few months she was sitting over there with dad and she said I can't sit over there with your dad watching him sleep. She needed to be around people. So what she did was turn all her customers over to Becky and I, whoever wanted to have us and most of them did. And she had plenty of business

without having to look for business. After all her personality was so good and her working ethnics were good and all the experience she had. They kept saying well Lois when are you going to retire? She said I'm going to retire when I don't have anymore customers when no body wants me anymore.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: And that's about right because you know grandma died at past she was 7 months from being a hundred and she was cutting your hair up to clear through high school.

Masonbrink: umm hmmm

Clausing: And all that stuff as long as she was able and felt comfortable doing it. But anyhow that was quite an experience. She just believed in her customers, so she had enough to do for awhile and ah so that was in 77 and so that's when Becky and I took over the shop and we tried to run it as well as well could like she would run it and we said your going to stay here mom as long as you feel comfortable were not taking you off the pay roll your still with us. And I think that's what made her live so long because she had something to get up for early every morning she'd be up by seven and ready to face another new day. And I think that's what made her... so active her mind stayed smart and active, she could sale meral Norman as well as anybody else, ring up the cash register. She's help Becky on Friday nights with the book work and payroll. And Becky enticed her to do that because she thought that kept her mind fresh

Masonbrink: keep going.

Clausing: kept going and gave her a reason to live and get up everyday to come to work. So I think that covers that part of it unless I missed something.

Masonbrink: how many ah customers would you say you had through out the years? Like distance wise

Clausing: oh id have no idea I mean I use to say I wish I had a penny for every permit I gave over 51 years because we'd go over to Auglaize Acres in one day my sister Becky and I went to do hair because my aunt was a ministration over there

Masonbrink: umm hmmm

Clausing: And we would go over for two days and my hands got so sore they were actually bleeding, so I'd tell the girls I said hey I'm going to start setting some of these permits hair in roller sets and you keep wrapping because so many of them we did where the staff just wanted them picked out curly because it was so easier to take care of not to have to roll them up and put them under dryers.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: so one of the days we were over there they brought sex patients to us at one time and of course there were three of us working but the other three of course had to set out there and wait their turn. We thought oh gee you know that's a long day for them and a long day us looking at what we had to do yet. We'd do maybe 17 in one day.

Masonbrink: oh wow.

Clausing: and then we'd go back the next day and get right back into it again. Because they had two shampoo bowls there that helped us out a lot because we'd have to put the ones in the shampoo chair that we couldn't move as easily keep them there in case we'd have to set them after we neutralized them, because you couldn't.. You had to ask for help sometimes to get them in and out of the wheelchairs. And I don't know how many years we went out there, but we went out to the Valley for twenty years and we'd go out every other Monday and it got the place where they wanted to make money off of us. We was doing it for our sweet customer's families

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: charging them the same price we would charge if they came to us the beauty shop, well the staff out there decided they had to have their cut, you know so they raised the prices. And we furnished our own towels, our own hair dryers, and all our supplies; all we used of theirs was electricity and water.

Masonbrink: right

Clausing: and after twenty years of that mom says were not going to sign that contract anymore she says that's not right

Masonbrink: not doing it for the right reasons

Clausing: we're doing this for service for families we don't need to be doing this. So we felt bad leaving them but we thought well just let somebody else do that if they wanted to do that and I like I said they would leave us in at the Valley anytime. I went out there for years after we didn't do that anymore and cut hair and gave a few permits and they were very nice to me. Now when I first started out there, I was working like in a mop closet. Had a mop thing in there and a sink and I had to wash the hair with a shampoo board over this mop sink and I end up doing their hair in the hallway or take them back to their room and do their hair. Well then once they got the nice beauty shop they hardly put one shampoo bowl in there where they should have made it bigger and put in two because of two of us was going out there most the time it held us up we had to keep moving the ones out that could move and put the bad ones in that couldn't move. So then um went out to the Living Center and they were real nice letting me in there and we didn't have to sign any contract or anything. Like I said I went out and did my sweet friend Miller Johnson a number of

times and different ones but now they wouldn't let us in at Otterbein. Otterbein had their own operators out there and they wouldn't let us in. So when Becky wanted to go out there and do her mother in law's hair they would let her do her but she had to take her back to her room I think she could wash her hair there but had to do all the rest in her room. And a Becky said that was alright she said I only need to give her permits I don't care if the rest of the girls set her hair. But Margaret's use to me giving her permits and Becky thought they were paying the bills out there she'd should be able to have whoever she chose to have do her permits. So that's what we did. Now when mom was out there for a month is all she was out there we just went a head and let the girls do her hair and Becky go out and visit and want to touch it up with a curling iron. She'd do it right in the patient's room. But it's just the way it was because they had to make sure their staff got paid enough money for their customers.

Masonbrink: right

Clausing: otherwise it would pay to have them there if they didn't. Now I guess they made a bigger beauty shop out there but I've never seen the beauty shop that they had in the past so but see the beauty shop that's in the living center on Indiana Ave. it was a nicer beauty shop and then they took it away from us and used it for a therapy room. And gave us just a little room with no windows in it or nothing just put a sink in there, two or three hair dryers, and that's were we sat

Masonbrink: just give you the necessities

Clausing: and I said the last couple times we were out there I told Becky I don't know if I could go out there much more or not because I couldn't hardly get between the shampoo bowl and the wall. Because it was so tight in there

Masonbrink: right

Clausing: And I had such a low stand to work on it was noting like the stands we have at the shop. To work on to set their hair. So over the years you learn a lot of new trades a lot of new I don't know what you would call it. New experiences I guess or different things going on.

Masonbrink: well and you guys still have the Auglaize Council of Aging bringing your customers.

Clausing: oh yeah they bring patients in and Becky always appreciates that so much so every Christmas she bakes cookies for the bus drivers and for like Mildred that came in on the bus. She's send cookies when she'd come go home she'd see that the fellow the driver would take cookies home for Mildred's appt. at that time she was living at her own appt at ah black oaks appt. she was living back there. They had to see to it her cookies got home safely. (Both laugh) but Becky always looked out for the people that looked after us and helped us out. Because if it wouldn't be for those people we'd be going to their houses and have more shed ins. It's a wonder I didn't

have more shed ins. Well I did shed ins for many; many years as you remember I'd go clear over to well I went over to the funeral home in New Bremen. One time I did my sweet customer who came over to me from New Bremen. When she died I made sure at I'd got my dad to take me over there to do her hair. So those are the things you do. Been to Spencerville once at that funeral home, and did one of my customers hair that needed to be done.

Masonbrink: Where would you say would be your far thus spot you have

Clausing: travel, oh godly Becky use to go to Coldwater just to give Joann's mother a hair cut , but then mom rode along with her and that's was Coldwater, but I don't think I ever oh Id out to the lake sometimes out at the lake.. Sandy beach.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: I did one of my customers out there for permits. She was a shed in at sandy beach but that's not too far. But a we go wherever they told us to go I guess. As long as there is a way to get there.

Masonbrink: and you had everything you needed.

Clausing: that's right. And it wasn't easy this one I use to do on Harris Rd. I went to her daughter's 40th wedding anniversary this week ago yesterday. And I always did her mom's hair. And her mom came as long as she able to then she couldn't come I'd go out to her farm house on the Harris Rd. and oh my we'd have to do it in bed with a bed pan or bucket on the chair a tray would run into the bucket and id give her permits that way and I think oh how did I do that. But I use to go up to Lima and it use to be called the TB hospital but it wasn't really for TB anymore kind a had it for special needs. And my a Mrs. Reyenke I went up there an oh my I gave her a permit in a hospital bed couldn't hardly get the bed rail down just so far but before that I was doing her hair on Woodward street. And I did it first in the bathroom and we ended up in the kitchen and later years we ended up doing it in her bed with the railing down and oh talk about being hard work that way. Went up to Lima and did her I must have ate for a couple of days later just from working in those positions but I knew it was going to make her feel good. Made me feel good I was able to get up there. And our minister at the church at the time took me up there because his wife was up there. Well I end up doing his wife's hair also while I was up there at the special hospital but they had a beauty shop I could take the elevator down and do her hair but this other one was all bed fest. But that's the things you get into and its good that you learn how to do hair any which way. Now Becky use to go out and do hair her shed in she say well I did this out there on a hundred and sixteen out at my fifth grade school teacher I did her hair out there. And did her sister's hair. And we'd set a card table up or I guess we used a kitchen table in the kitchen and we take a pan of water and get it to the sink and pour it in there and place on table was your hair take the pan back and rinse it out and put more water in rinse her hair good and we give her a permit. Now I don't think either one of them could stand up at the sink at the

time. So when we neutralized the permit we had to go through all the procedure again with the water and the towels over the eyes and what have you.

Masonbrink: umm hmm

Clausing: and my dad would drive me out there because Lee, grandpa would be working. So he drove me out there so that was out on hunter 16 which wasn't too far. But Becky had one she would do and set up the card table at house and do her hair the same way with the dish pans and that because you couldn't get them to the sink. So the only other nice thing we had was this no rinse shampoo. If they were out in the hospital bed, and just needed their hair shampooed good the patience's could have either the hospital staff or we could do it and say um did my mother in laws hair that way I washed it right in bed with because its wet and you leave it right in the hair especially for shed ins and its not made to be taken out of the hair. But you couldn't perm over that stuff see you would have to use your regular shampoo if you were going to give them a permit. Couldn't have that in the hair. So those are the things you learn down the line. (Both laugh)

Masonbrink: Now referring back to your schooling you had five girls that went with you

Clausing: yeah four of them besides me the only one I've gotten contact with from Sidney the only one I know about are the one that worked for us. She came to work Thelma. I forgot to say Thelma worked for us awhile. And her husband to be her fiancé was in the navy and so I think she took course deep down she was wanting to be a school teacher because she took oh what do you call that future teachers association

Masonbrink: oh I know what you're talking about. Future American teachers.

Clausing: when you want to be a teacher you take this. So she was taking courses wanting to be teacher really. But she wanted something to tie her time over so she worked for us a couple of years and then she got married work for us a while then got married. And then a she left us and went into college to be a teacher now she still lives in New Knoxville now their sitting own in sunny Florida in their home in Florida for the winter months how I wish anyhow these three friends were her friends really I didn't know them but she must of somehow or so from Sidney how she knew them. One was Grace, one was Barbra, and one was Judy. Judy Stump, Barbara Rosenbeck, and um Grace I cant think of what her last name was but after I got out of beauty school I pretty much lost contact on where they're living or where their at I have no idea. But Thelma I kept in contact with her with her going working for us and with her husband being from New Knoxville like grandpa is you know we kept connections we send Christmas cards back and fourth each year. And I run into her occasionally. And I think if I'm not mistaking I think her one daughter in law became a hair dresser.

Masonbrink: How long did you have to go to school?

Clausing: I went in seven months being the reason it was 1250 hours back then now I think it 1500 hours and you have to go a little bit longer to get your managers license. But when I went that's a little easier they left us go the reason I got out in seven months ill tell you a little story about that they taught classes there day and night and we went in the day time but then we course wanted to get done little sooner at least I did so we'd go to the evenings too. Because see after um so many months you got on the floor and first had to work on each other now today you don't do that today you work on manikins. And we don't like that so well the girls who come into the shop now work on manikins and you don't really know if your doing that customer a really good shampoo or not because they cant talk about to you. You know...

Masonbrink: right you have to have communication.

Clausing: so, anyhow I went and gave a permit one night ill never forget and that was the thing I given this it was a customer now and I wrapped this permit and the instructor comes along checks everything and some things wrong with that permit she didn't like so what did I have to do was take the whole thing down. Don't know if it was all the way down or just a few rods. Of course you're talking 51 years ago. We had to take it down. And you know until this day Adam that's what I like the best of anything I did not because the money was better on the permits as far as to making more money but its something I prided myself doing giving a good permit. Count on my hand I bet I can count on one hand in 51 years of doing one or to permits over. And it may have not been my fault but a medical health problem with medications people's health.

Masonbrink: that's pretty good.

Clausing: but that's what I did. So what happened then they stopped us after awhile because we were getting our hours in to fast to suit them. So we couldn't go to state board in Columbus because they wouldn't allow that because they would probably wonder how we got through the course so fast.

Masonbrink: why you're finishing so quick... yeah

Clausing: so they shipped about forty-five of us I wasn't by myself they shipped about forty five of us over to the Xenia to the Soldiers and sailors it was like an orphanage home like an orphanage home and heaven sakes I had it made there Adam. They had it set up like a beauty school in there like a vocational school for these orphans that learn a trade. And I had the whole nine yards. I got to take my favorite aunt as my model. And we had it set up as a shampoo bowl, a working station, we even had a facial room to go into to do our facials and every night when it got closer to the time to do that instead of saying a prayer id say the facial nomad movements out loud every night because I could remember it better than if id say it out loud than I'd just say it to myself. Whatever

Masonbrink: right

Clausing: so then we got there and I went through all that Rigamaro well before we went there we had to take a test at the school and get a high enough score I think um I made an 83 at state board had to at least make a 75 at school or something or rather to get out of there I mean if you didn't get a high enough score you aren't going to make it to state board. I didn't worry about getting a hundred percent but I think they were concern because they knew mom was a hair dresser and if they didn't turn out a good product she would probably have something to say about it. (Both laugh) So anyhow I passed it think I got an 83 and one time I was up there my text book come up missing and I thought where in the world is my textbook so I buy a new textbook and lone and behold pretty soon my textbook shows up.

Masonbrink: yup

Clausing: so now I'm stu.. Got two text books but here I had all that stuff underlined and all my notes in there and everything so somewhere around this place I've got two textbooks. Which don't bother me just a nice souvenir now? But anyhow that's the way that's was so we went up there and took it all in one day and I forget how long it took but we had to leave real early in the morning and then we had to make finger waves back in those days now when I took my class in school and getting trained we were the last class to learn how to Marcel use to tell us over and under shape wave and click, click, click.. It's done with a real hot iron. That you stick into an oven well we practiced sort of on hair stains I think it was or maybe strip of sanex that you put around the customers collar. Neck to put your apron on for sanitation it's been so many years ago I kind a forgot but we never had to use it on anybody. Mom did it at the shop she actually had a customer that would go six weeks I guess without washing her hair and when she come back to her those waves will still be in there. So I want to show you what that looked like Adam. That's what you called the Marcel Wave that my mom had. Finger waves well it could have been a finger wave or a Marcel Wave because you could get the same affects pretty well either way. Because their real deep in there.

Masonbrink: Does that take a lot longer to produce like with the hair, like a perm?

Clausing: well you just don't put a perm in that you just did that with the hot iron or wave set you put wave set and ah Becky still has a customer one customer she does every Saturday she still does the finger waves and she to finger wave her hair all over her head over her whole head she has to but those stayed real nice and you've seen a lot of pictures back in the rolling 20's where that was the thing because mom graduated in '29 and started beauty school in 1930. And ah that's the way it was.

Masonbrink: So you guys did a lot of those you said at the orphanage? You did a lot of the finger waves

Clausing? Oh no the orphanage that I went that was strictly for State Board.

Masonbrink: oh just for state board okay now.

Clausing: they had a beauty school set up for the orphanage kids to learn a trade. And that was ideal because going to tell you the rest of the kids that finished like they were suppose to and didn't go ahead of the game they went to Columbus and think they had to go to the fair grounds if I'm not mistaken or something and they didn't have very nice facilities. I mean with the water I don't know how it was because I was never there and I never heard too much about it. But getting back to state board, Thelma started a little sooner than I did I they went in the summer and I had the summer off and didn't start till September therefore they got done a little sooner so I stayed with this girl Barb which was a manicurist and the last month I stayed in Dayton with I stayed at the Y by myself. And I was 17 when I went down to Dayton and I was 17 when I came back. Being I started in Sept. and got out in April. And didn't turn 18 well I guess I did not I didn't sorry I turned 18 a month after I got there October I turned 18 but I was going to say I was still 18 when I started working. Because I was still 17 when I went in

Masonbrink: Right

Clausing: but I was only there for like a month at 17 and then I was working form that time on. But anyhow she went there and took state board and she come back and saved our hides. She told us we were taught you thin with thinning sheers and she told them you shingle with thinning sheers, well they tried to lead us to believe to doing that well all you was doing was you weren't beveling up like we do today with a shingle we were just thinning the hair out I guess. And she failed that one thing on her hair cutting test. So I don't know what happened if she had to take that one test over for that or how it's been too many years ago I don't remember what the outcome was. But anyhow she saved the rest of us going she was nice enough to tell us because we would have all probably failed that hair cutting thing because that's the way we were taught. Because they didn't want you to chop into the hair probably. You know like we bevel it up. If you had the thinning sheers you can t do any harm your just thinning the hair our which if you do it too much you take out too much hair of course there would be no permanent damage there you would just have to have it grow out. So you always want to make sure you look at the right scissors if you're thinning out hair. You sure don't want to take the barber scissors and go crunch into it or you got a big wad of hair coming out. But that was one thing an always remembered about Thelma I was thankful that she got thru that past test alright and worked for us, she was a nice roommate, we got along well together but she saved our hide I tell you what it came to getting through State Board. (Both Laugh)

Masonbrink: Say probably state board is a lot worse?

Clausing: Say now they have to take more hours. See what happened to me was after I once took my state board wait a whole month to get my license. Becky went she had a working permit where she could work before she got her license which they

didn't offer to us but I got my managers license working a full year... I got it automatically. Where as now say like your taking your masters you have to go longer. So that was a plus there. Worked a full good year. Didn't know I was going to work 50 more years after that.

Masonbrink: oh yeah!

Clausing: but ah they went pretty fast after sixty-five first thing in find out I turning 70 and I thought well 70 sounds like a magic number sounds like that the time people think I probably every now and then have a customer tell me hey Sandra when you going to retire? I say oh I don't know oh you think I should? Oh no, you know this and that and this one sweet lady I did on a Saturday I could have cried. I was shampooing her hair and she says you know I couldn't go to a party or do this or do that because you got my hair cut to short this last time when you gave me a permit. I said oh Mad here she is in her 80's and don't, don't need to wear her hair any longer than I left it I mean didn't scalp her or anything just a nice neck line made it look nice which I thought and every two weeks or every weekend I do her hair she'd complain about this.. And I said Mad this is the first time I ever told anybody this. Nicely I said Mad maybe you should get yourself a different girl to do your hair. You know if your unhappy maybe you should try somebody else Boy you never seen someone jump so big in their life. That cleared her amaze and I did her hair I think for her funeral. Poor Ci Ci who worked at the shop poor granddaughter found her laying out in the snow in the yard. I don't know if she was shoveling something I guess and she lay out there in the snow and they found her. But I thought that was embarrassing to me to have to tell somebody and first time I ever told that to anybody in all my 51 years. I felt terrible about it. I don't know who hurt the most her or me. But it woke her up. Woke her up.

Masonbrink. Yeah yeah

Clausing: because I thought this way if I wasn't satisfied you then why should you pay me money if you're not happy?

Masonbrink: have to keep continuing it.

Clausing: if you're not happy why should I take my time and worry about it because I use to have a couple customers. And every time she called me on the phone I would get myself in all a tizzy I enjoyed visiting with her but she always did her own hair but she just have me give her permits. Unless there was a special occasion she has me come set her hair. Died a few years ago. She was lee's age real young died in her early 70's just a few years ago. She would always tell you you should put this roller here or a roller there. And I tried not to feel the tension in me because I did the best I can do. Don't think she realized how upset I got. I enjoyed her as a person and I loved visiting with her but when it came to her hair she wasn't that hard to do but it was just trying to satisfy her. I guess I tried to hard. Or something but that was always my feelings I'm Libra which is s scales and I always want everything equal id

rather have somebody hurt my feelings I guess instead of hurting their feelings and that's the way it has always been my whole life and working years and until this day id still rather some body step on me instead of me stepping on them. But that has always dwelled me mom always said treat everybody equal treat them like you wanted to be treated. And that's the way the world goes.

Masonbrink: And that shows in the shop.

Clausing: and I think it rubs off because when the kids were growing up I always taught them to lay their clothes out the night before. And now they are passing all these good ethnic to you

Masonbrink: and that's what we have now too.

Clausing: that's what I say pass on those good ethnics to you and you know how a working mother has sometimes the worst kids but we feel more like they have more responsibility because the time I was in the eight grade we cooked, washed and ironed and all that stuff at home and that taught me how to do that later in life. And I passed that onto my two girls and now your dad has passed that on to you as laundry and cooking and I that's wonderful that your grandmother had the two girls to teach your dad that to work just like a girl to get things done it just wasn't all woman's work. Share the work around. And work as a family. And that's why we had nice things at home. About every Saturday night went to Brown's Restaurant and they always knew I was going to have the Wally's special hamburger and milkshake and French fries. Because that's what we did all the time. That was something we looked forward to and because mom worked hard she said that what we got the TV for and that's why we work hard to go out to eat and so we looked to get cleaned up and forward to every Saturday Becky and I did and that's the closet of the family that was our time together. With everyone being apart and me cant think of too many times that mom had a home cooked meal on the table. Even if he had to eat in shifts. Something or if dad was taking over the cooking and the shopping he'd fix pork chops and fix things maybe we would all eat it together and maybe all by ourselves. Sometimes we run over for ten minutes grab a bite go back to work and that was your life. But on the weekends we would go out to my mom's parent's house. And see my cousin's swing from the barn swing my cousins were always close to me in fact on cousin has a b-day today out in Arizona she's two years younger than I am. I think she'll be 71 today. And I sent her card out a few days ago so it would be sure to get there in time. And if she can she comes home to see us once a year or so. Family means a lot to every some families drift apart. We just never had that.

Masonbrink: yeah we have everyone so close.

Clausing: and we're so thankful of our grandsons all in St. Marys and our two granddaughters. And their all the pictures I display all the time you boys kind of gotten cheated the last couple years because you're not in school anymore...

Masonbrink: well we had that and all when we were in football.

Clausing: worship them and put albums all together and still have some I have to put together.

Masonbrink: that's what great about pictures you don't lose those moments.

Clausing: now the girls have the lime light and running them to school and basketball games and fund raisers and such... fundraisers for school and ginger snaps and the band. Just thankful we haven't moved away and thankful your dad's were from town here and Steve was from town here and not move the family away. Now here is Adam in college and completing college he might drift away from me for a teaching job, somewhere but he always know where home is and always tell mom that if she gets tired of you boys she can send you here I have a hide away and bathroom and kitchen always welcome to grandma and grandpas house... its always been a pleasure to having you all these years and spoil your family like I spoiled you. Well can you think of anything else I cover Adam or misplaced somewhere?

Masonbrink: I think we covered everything from the community and growing up.

Clausing: I'm not truing to advertise the Beauty Shop much but that's been my whole life from time I was two to now was my home away from home and besides the kitty show and wool mill torn down after memories of that and now hate to see our high school all gone but it was flooded.. many memories there and Y teens use to sleep on the stairs and not much sleep we had sock hoops there and dancing and your grandpa played ball up there in the cages and I use to sit up there and watch them games. Now nice to see the new school and the gym. Your grandma seen a lot of changes and we will see a lot of changes but she seen the horse and buggy turn into the car she use to walk across the fences the high snow you didn't even know the fence was there a mile to the country schools and um they finally got buses not sure when came I only rode the bus for band and was only three blocks from everything and mom said hey your hurry up and get over there because your not going to know what door to get into the building... only ate in the cafeteria when they served sloppy Joes. I don't know how I made it across the road I guess the traffic wasn't heavy and no cross walks and no cross walk lady it was so close to going home found something better to eat. So did we cover all of the questions you think so

Masonbrink: I think pretty much covered everything and like the community aspect

Clausing: I'm sorry I didn't do more community work I did belong to the adventure club and girls dropped out of that and I was in rainbow girls I was in that from 8th grade to graduate and got the honor bestowed on anybody it was grand across the color. Did care for worthy advisor had different color stations and got the pot of gold and all my badges. Eastern Branch sponsored all the rainbow girls... and was to help the community and help make things nicer. Bake sales at Easter time and had some dances and trying to be a nice girl and develop with good issues and taught to

be a respectable girl had to be voted in to get in and no one wanted to be blacked ball.

Masonbrink: Well I want to thank you grandma again for having the interview and

Clausing: I hope I had answered properly

Masonbrink: learned a lot more stuff I didn't even know about and glad to hear about. Just has one last question now "Would I be able to get a hair cut? "

Grandma: yeah (laugh) that's the end of the day now.